

THE FUTURE OF JANIS

For some months I have had the feeling that topographic intelligence has been drifting. Staffs are being cut every day, good people are leaving Washington and orderly planning is upset. Likewise, little attempt has been made in the lower echelons to determine what changes should be made in our intelligence to fit new methods of waging war and the problems of peace.

Such lack of planning is particularly disastrous to an enterprise such as JANIS, which is produced in order to anticipate requests for information and provide one organized presentation of basic intelligence data. The JANIS plan can save time and achieve much better results than an intelligence system characterized by a frenzied scramble to answer unorganized, spot requests.

At the present time, therefore, it appears urgent to examine the purposes and goals of JANIS, since the end of the war has knocked out the editorial props under the publication. It appears that there are two main ends for which JANIS should now be produced:

To provide basic background intelligence useful to the country in case of a future war waged by new methods of warfare including atomic bombs and other new devices, and

The problem of preparing the country for peaceful participation in international affairs such as providing basic economic and political background data on foreign countries.

In addition, there are some other uses but they seem subsidiary, such as (1) preparing the country for a sort of half war, half peace status which would involve policing and minor skirmishes, not employing radical new methods of waging war and (2) providing handbook material for use by American diplomats and missions travelling to foreign lands.

In order to meet the new purposes and goals of JANIS, certain changes and policies should be carried out:

A. Changes in content of JANIS.

1. Additional new material should be inserted in JANIS including a new chapter on scientific and technical research organization of foreign countries which would appraise the research facilities of the areas studied.

JCS review(s) completed.

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-2-

2. Increased attention should be given toward doing a better and more complete job on certain sections and chapters such as Telecommunications and Resources and Trade.

3. In addition, minor changes should be made in every JANIS chapter such as adding more data on traffic in the transportation chapters as well as cutting down drastically the length of text for some other chapters such as Coasts and Landing Beaches.

B. Personnel.

1. Qualified personnel will have to be assigned to contributors preparing JANIS as well as a minimum number assigned to the JANIS Board itself. Because of the nature of the work that JISPB must do, it cannot do a good job unless it has This number is required in order to have qualified personnel to cover the numerous specialized topics that must go into a JANIS if it is to be a worthwhile volume.

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EDWARD L. ULLMAN
Executive Secretary